

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL HEARING AND INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN
POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0036552-06-0

Permittee: Maple Grove Estates Sanitary District, P O Box 72, West Salem, WI, 54669

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Maple Grove Estates Sanitary District, W4263 Ceresa Drive, West Salem, WI 54669

Receiving Water and Location: Wetland tributary to Pleasant Valley Creek in the Lower La Crosse River Watershed of the Bad Axe – La Crosse Rivers Basin located in La Crosse County (NE ¼ of SW ¼ of Section 8, T16N–R6W — Lat: 43.87694° N / Lon: 91.12262° W)

Brief Facility Description: This facility is an activated sludge aeration system with an annual average design flow of 0.035 MGD, and an actual annual average flow of 0.009 MGD over the past three years. The waste is domestic and comes from the area condominiums and homes. The Maple Grove Country Club and golf course was closed in September 2013. In 2018, the club reopened on a limited basis as a venue for celebrations. The plant was built in 1992 and is currently operating below capacity. When needed, excess sludge is hauled to the West Salem Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Summary of Proposed Changes: The ammonia nitrogen variable daily maximum limits pH dependent table has been expanded to include limits throughout the allowable pH range (6.0 s.u. to 9.0 s.u.). A weekly average ammonia nitrogen limit of 40 mg/L effective October through April annually has been added. The sample frequency for chloride has been increased from monthly to 4/Month. The mass discharge of chloride must be calculated and reported on the same days chloride sampling occurs. Maple Grove Estates SD has requested a variance from the Acute and Chronic water quality standards for chloride. Interim limits of 576 mg/L as a weekly average (unchanged from the previous permit) and 1,015 mg/L as a daily maximum are proposed. This variance must be approved by the US EPA prior to being included in the permit. Temperature monitoring is no longer required. The permit now includes monitoring for Total Nitrogen parameters.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Phillip Spranger, DNR, 3911 Fish Hatchery Rd, Fitchburg, WI, 53711, (608) 516-3700, Phillip.Spranger@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Julia Stephenson, DNR, 3550 Mormon Coulee Road, La Crosse, WI 54601, (608) 785-9981, Julia.Stephenson@wisconsin.gov

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be reissued.

Proposed Chloride Variance: The Department has determined that a water quality-based effluent limitation (WQBEL) for chloride is needed in this permit to protect aquatic life. As allowed under s. NR 106.83(2), Wis. Adm. Code, the permittee has requested a variance to the chloride WQBEL. In support of this request, the permittee has submitted documentation intended to demonstrate that the cost of complying with the WQBEL through the use of end-of-pipe wastewater treatment may cause substantial and widespread adverse social and economic impacts in the area where the discharger is located. The Department concurs with that assessment, however this concurrence is subject to USEPA approval before the variance limit may be included in the final reissued permit. In an effort to achieve chloride effluent reductions that are practically and economically achievable within the term of the proposed permit, the Department and the permittee have mutually agreed upon specific permit terms that include an interim limitation, a target limit (or value, as the case may be), and certain source reduction activities. As allowed under s. NR 106.83(3), Wis. Adm. Code, these requirements are contained in the proposed permit.

Virtual Hearing Date and Time: Monday, January 25, 2021 10:00 AM

Hearing Location (Virtual): In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency and the Governor's Safer at Home mandate, the Department of Natural Resources will be hosting public hearings via a remote, virtual connection made available to the public via the options below. Virtual hearings will be recorded.

Remote Connection for public participation:

Zoom Virtual Participation: <https://zoom.us/j/94843259141>

Meeting ID: 948 4325 9141

Zoom Conference Call Line: +1 312 626 6799: If participating via conference call, participants will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID: 948 4325 9141

For questions on how to connect remotely please contact: Stephen Nehring, DNR, 101 S. Webster St. PO Box 7921, Madison, WI, 53707-7921, (608) 261-6406, Stephen.Nehring@wisconsin.gov

The Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to Section 283.49, Wisconsin Statutes, has scheduled for the time and place listed above, a public hearing for the purpose of giving all interested persons an opportunity to make a statement with respect to the above announced permit action for this existing discharge.

Hearing Officer, Name, Address, City/State/Zip, and Phone: Phillip Spranger, DNR, 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg WI 53711, (608) 516-3700

A hearing officer will conduct the hearing in an orderly and speedy way and will use procedures specified in Subchapter II of ch. NR 203, Wis. Adm. Code, necessary to insure broad public participation in the hearing.

The hearing officer will open the hearing and make a concise statement of the scope and purpose of the hearing and shall state what procedures will be used during the course of the hearing. The hearing officer shall explain the method of notification of the final decision to grant or deny the permit and the methods by which the decision may be reviewed in a public adjudicatory hearing.

The hearing officer may put limits on individual oral statements to insure an opportunity for all persons present to make statements in a reasonable period of time and to prevent undue repetition. The hearing officer may also limit the number of representatives making oral statements on behalf of any person or group.

Informational and clarifying questions and oral statements shall be directed through the hearing officer. Cross-examination shall not be allowed.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action are invited to do so by attending the public hearing or by submitting any comments or objections in writing to the Department of Natural Resources, at the above named permit drafter's address. Currently, DNR staff are working remotely and have very limited access to US mail. To ensure comments are received, the Department recommends that all comments be sent via email to the permit drafter listed in this notice. All comments or suggestions received from members of the public no later than 7 days following the date of this public hearing will be used, along with other information on file and testimony presented at the hearing, in making a final determination. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, is accessible via e-mail by contacting the above named permit drafter's e-mail address or the above named basin engineer's e-mail during normal business hours Monday through Friday (except holidays). Note that DNR staff have limited access to permit hard copy files during this time as they are working remotely, but much of the permit file is available electronically by e-mail request. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

NAME OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: La Crosse Tribune

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 401 3rd St. N, La Crosse, WI 54601

Date Notice Issued: Wednesday, December 9th, 2020